

## CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a copolyester comprising at least  
3-hydroxybutyric acid and hydroxyhexanoic acid as monomeric  
5 units by a microorganism

which comprises culturing the microorganism with an oil  
or fat containing lauric acid in constituent fatty acids as a  
carbon source under condition phosphorus, a nutrient source,  
being restricted.

10

2. The method according to Claim 1,  
wherein the oil or fat used as a carbon source contains  
at least 10 % by weight of lauric acid in the constituent fatty  
acids.

15

3. The method according to Claim 1 or 2,  
wherein the oil and fat used as a carbon source contains  
at least one oil or fat selected from the group consisting of  
palm kernel oil, coconut oil and a fractional oil or fat  
20 obtainable by fractioning said oil or fat.

4. The method according to any of Claims 1 to 3,  
wherein the productivity of the copolyester produced by  
a microorganism is at least 40 g/L and a content of  
25 3-hydroxyhexanoic acid unit in the copolyester is at least 4  
mol%.

5. The method according to any of Claims 1 to 4,  
wherein the microorganism is a transformed microorganism  
30 incorporated with a polyester polymerase gene isolated from  
Aeromonas caviae.

6. The method according to any of Claims 1 to 5,  
wherein the microorganism is Ralstonia eutropha.

35